

January 30, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY – STATUS REPORT

On November 19, 2002, on the motion of Supervisor Antonovich, your Board instructed my office to report back on the progress and status of the Southern California Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA). On two occasions, the last being December 20, 2002, we requested extensions in order to ensure that the report contained up-to-date information.

Attached is a status report prepared by the Chief Executive Officer of the SCRAA, Ms. Peggy Ducey. In addition to this report, the following information is provided regarding the current status of the SCRAA:

- The City of Los Angeles has not participated in the SCRAA since October 2001. In fact, since reactivation of the SCRAA in March of 2001, the City representative has only attended two meetings; April 26, 2001 and October 18, 2001. The City did not pay voluntary dues of \$50,000 in 2001-02.
- The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the SCRAA Board of Directors; however, the SCAG representative only attended two meetings; March 28, 2001 and April 26, 2001.

- The four county members of the SCRAA (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino) each paid the \$50,000 in voluntary dues in 2001-02. The SCRAA Board adopted a 2002-03 Budget that proposes assessing each member agency \$50,000 in voluntary dues; however, the SCRAA staff has not invoiced any of the agencies to date.
- On July 30, 2002, the Riverside Board of Supervisors formally voted to withdraw from the SCRAA and subsequently requested that their financial contributions to the agency be reimbursed. No action has been taken on the request for contribution reimbursement. Reimbursement is not specifically authorized when a single member entity elects to withdraw. However, pro rata refund of moneys on deposit is authorized upon dissolution of the SCRAA.
- The SCRAA Board of Directors has not held a regular meeting since July 2002. A special teleconference meeting was held on October 15, 2002. A regular meeting was scheduled for January 16, 2003, but was cancelled due to lack of a quorum when it was determined on the morning of the meeting that the Orange County representative could not attend.
- The Chief Executive Officer's contract with the SCRAA to provide professional and clerical staff services expired on November 30, 2002. A contract with the Interim General Counsel expires on January 31, 2003.
- As noted in Chief Executive Officer's report, through an application submitted by SCAG, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded \$500,000 in Airport Improvement Program funds to support SCRAA activities. The SCRAA Chief Executive Officer proposed that \$250,000 of these funds be utilized to contract with a consultant to develop an air cargo implementation plan for relocation and/or expansion of cargo facilities at regional airports, focusing primarily on March Inland Port, San Bernardino, and Southern California Logistics Airport. This recommendation has not been approved by the SCRAA Board of Directors nor has an RFP been issued for a consultant. These SCRAA actions are necessary in order for the SCAG Regional Council to accept the FAA grant. FAA grant monies are paid in arrears after completion of the work.

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- The January 16, 2003 SCRAA Agenda included a recommended work plan for development of an AIRail Intermodal System. This work plan was developed based upon SCRAA Board action in April 2002, and a SCRAA sponsored fact-finding trip to Germany in November 2002 to evaluate Germany's airport-maglev rail system serving the Frankfurt Airport. The SCRAA is working with the California-Nevada Speed Train Commission and SCAG on a proposal to build a maglev rail system connecting a remote terminal in Orange County to Ontario Airport, Southern California Logistics Airport, and Las Vegas.

In conclusion, since its reactivation, the SCRAA has been challenged by the lack of participation by two critical members, the City of Los Angeles and SCAG. The City of Los Angeles is the operator of two of the region's most viable airports, Los Angeles International and Ontario International; and also owns Palmdale Regional Airport which is currently not operating. SCAG, as the Federally recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Southern California region, is responsible for preparing the Aviation Element of the Regional Transportation Plan and is the key recipient of federal funding for long range airport planning. SCAG staff has participated with SCRAA staff in a joint funding application, and has proposed that the SCRAA play a leadership role in development of maglev in Southern California.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Lari Sheehan of my staff at (213) 974-1174.

DEJ: LS:os

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel